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ALN—THE GREY ISSUE



Today is the United Nations' 10th INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS

towards a society
for all ages 

Find out what public libraries do for older citizens. *Next chapters: public libraries in Australia and New Zealand for older generations conference proceedings, Sydney 1-2 May 2009*, edited by Alan Bundy, is now available from the Auslib website, and the Public Libraries Summit submission *Public Libraries in an Ageing Community*, by Chris Jones, Great Lakes Library, Forster NSW, can be viewed on the ALIA website.

Baby boom helps boost population statistics

According to the latest figures from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the country's population grew by 2.1% for the year ending March 2009, compared with a 1.2% growth rate five years ago. Nearly two-thirds of the increase came from net overseas migration (63%), the rest from a modest baby boom.



A good week for ...

... Mount Gambier public library with cash from sponsors before the doors have opened (page 3)



A bad week for ...

... People who get picky about qualifications. The new CEO of the Copyright Council isn't a lawyer (page 4)



1 October, 2009

Issue 393

Contents

- 2 Google BookSearch: another week to go
- 3 Cash injection from pharmacy group
- 3 Call for public library directory information
- 3 Sony partners with library software firm in the US
- 3 International news
- 4 National framework required for the creation and management of sustainable collections
- 4 New copyright head brings alternative skill set
- 4 NZ graduate library courses pass muster
- 4 News in brief
- 5 Exhibitions, Classified advertising
- 6-7 What's On Guide

'Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter.'

Writer Mark Twain

AUSTRALIAN LIBRARY NEWS

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FOCUS

'Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at 20 or 80. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. The greatest thing in life is to keep your mind young.'

Car maker Henry Ford

Google Book Search: another week to go

The US federal court hearing for objections to the US\$125 million Google Book Search settlement is scheduled for 7 October and the end result is by no means conclusive.

In the latest twist, the book trade in Germany and France has launched a ferocious attack on Google for copying works before it has established copyright, claiming that the proposed US settlement runs contrary to international intellectual property, competition and copyright law.

This is how the story has unfolded over the last six months.

ALN, 30 April: A federal court judge overturned the 5 May deadline to give authors a further four months to digest the terms of the Google Book Search settlement hammered out by Google, the Authors' Guild and the American Association of Publishers, creating a new deadline of 4 September for objections from companies and individuals, and 18 September for challenges from the US government.

ALN, 7 May: The American Library Association, the Association of College and Research Libraries and the Association of Research Libraries filed comments based on concerns that institutional subscriptions to the service might sky-rocket in the future.

ALN, 3 September: Microsoft and Yahoo confirmed their participation in the rival Open Book Alliance, led by the not-for-profit Internet Archive.

The Chronicle of Higher Education, 31 August: *Google's Book Search: A Disaster for Scholars* by Geoffrey Nunberg, pointed out the failings of the metadata, describing them as 'a train wreck: a mishmash wrapped in a muddle, wrapped in a mess.'

The Age, 3 September: Amazon told a US court that Congress, not Google, should be responsible for establishing rules about how to deal with digital copies of books.

Sydney Morning Herald, 9 September: Microsoft, the French government, DC Comics, the National Writers Union and National Coalition of Authors filed last-minute objections to the Google Book Search settlement.

Sydney Morning Herald, 21 September: The US Justice Department proposed a number of changes to the settlement, addressing the concerns of those opposed to it. The Justice Department stated, 'The proposed settlement raises two serious issues. First, through collective action, the proposed settlement appears to give book publishers the power to restrict price competition. Second, as a result of the proposed settlement, other digital distributors may be effectively precluded from competing with Google in the sale of digital library products and other derivative products to come.' Meanwhile, the head of the US Copyright Office argued that the deal violated 'fundamental copyright principles.'

There are two questions that don't bode well for Google in next week's hearing. Firstly, why did Google decide to copy first and answer questions later? It has already scanned more than 10 million books but can only display a fraction of the material it has collected because of copyright protection. Secondly, is it a fair deal for copyright owners? Google paid US\$1.65billion for YouTube and is proposing US\$125 million for the licence to use millions of books.

INTERNATIONAL

Big Brother is watching

Twitter, Facebook, Myspace, YouTube and Flickr users who visit the White House pages on these sites may have their personal data archived without their knowledge or consent. The National Legal and Policy Center has challenged the administration's garnering of data about visitors from various social networking sites.

Borrowing request refused

Camden Council, in north London, has apologised to a member of the public who was refused the loan of a pair of scissors because she 'might stab a member of staff.' Lorna Watts, the library user, said, 'It's absurd—there are plenty of heavy books I could have hit her with if I'd wanted to.'

Website for nature lovers

The BBC has put more than 500 video clips of rare and familiar creatures on a new section of its website, devoted to natural history.

Veteran British film-maker Sir David Attenborough has chosen moments from his award-winning documentaries for inclusion on www.bbc.co.uk/wildlifefinder.

Boom times for e-readers

Research company iSuppli has predicted that just over five million e-readers will be sold in 2009, compared with one million in 2008, more than half of them in North America. However, a recent report from Forrester Research suggested most consumers would resist buying an e-reader until they cost less than US\$100, and industry experts also believe potential buyers will hold off to see if Apple enters the market with a general purpose tablet PC.

100 years of British news

The British Library, working with Gale and the Joint Information Systems Committee, has made more than two million newspaper pages from 1800 to 1900 available at <http://newspapers.bl.uk>.

NEWS

Cash injection from pharmacy group

In the lead up to the opening of the new Mount Gambier public library in December, local businesses are being brought in as sponsors.

Gambier City Pharmacies is the latest organisation to agree to invest \$10,000 in the venture, as sponsor of the library's parenting collection.

The company's spokesperson Matthew Dixon said, 'We fully support and praise the City of Mount Gambier for having the vision to proceed with the new library and encourage members of the community and businesses to embrace this exciting project.'

**Call for public library directory information**

Auslib is putting together the eighth edition of its Directory of Australian Public Libraries (DAPL), which is published every three years.

Editor Dr Alan Bundy said, 'The publication of DAPL8 as an up-to-date record of the strengths, inequities and needs of the Australian public library system, will be very timely in the context of the increasing attention being given to the need for much better investment in public libraries. Very few other countries have such a comprehensive record of their public library systems.'

Auslib has sent questionnaires to public library managers, with a deadline of 30 October for the completed forms to be returned. They can also be downloaded from the Auslib website.

DAPL8 will be published in February 2010.

Sony partners with library software firm in the US

Electronics giant Sony and OverDrive, one of the world's biggest global digital distributors of e-books and audio books to libraries, have joined forces in the US to put in place a library lending model for e-books.

OverDrive has agreements with more than 9,000 libraries around the world, including Australia and New Zealand, allowing lenders to use their library cards to borrow free digital content. Libraries buy a number of digital licences, which are lent to library users for a limited period. When that period expires, the digital licence is available for a new user, with the e-book no longer accessible on the original lender's hardware.

The new deal with Sony will see the e-reader manufacturer and OverDrive cross-promoting each other's products in regions where both are available, principally North America.

More information on the OverDrive website.

'An archaeologist is the best husband a woman can have. The older she gets the more interested he is in her.'

Queen of crime fiction, Agatha Christie

IN BRIEF

Point Cook library opens

Point Cook Community Learning Centre has opened, featuring more than \$1 million-worth of books; 20 public computers with broadband internet access; a Wi-Fi bar with an iMac computer for design work, and self-checkout facilities.

More Living Libraries

Murwillumbah library, NSW, has launched a Living Library on the first Friday of every month. Author Nette Hilton and British war bride Kelly Snow are two of the living books available to 'borrow'.

What shall we call it?

ALIA is looking for a name for its 2010 conference, taking place on 2 and 3 September, in Brisbane. Go to the [ALIA](#) website to vote.

Margaritas all round

The School Library Association of Victoria (SLAV) will celebrate its 2009 International School Libraries Day Awards with a cocktail party at the State Library of Victoria on 26 October.

The guest speaker will be Chrissy Sharp, director of the Centre for Books, Writing and Ideas. More information from the [SLAV](#) website.

Summon ousts Google

The University of South Australia has switched to Serial Solutions' new search device, replacing both the Find It box on the library home page and Google Scholar with the Summon service. [Serials Solutions](#), based in Seattle, is a business unit of ProQuest.

Making sense of Twitter

Twitoaster.com is a free service for sorting and archiving your Twitter conversations so you can easily pick up the thread at a later date. Old Tweets disappear from the Twitter search index after a few weeks so if you want to keep track of what you've been talking about, go to [www.twitoaster.com](#).

NEWS



National framework required for the creation and management of sustainable collections

The Collections Council of Australia has circulated a consultation paper on a proposed new model for sustainable scientific and cultural collections to some 5000 collecting organisations around Australia for comment.

Council chair Noel Turnbull said, 'Many Australian collections are in a perilous state. The sector lacks integrated support outside capital cities, there is no over-arching framework to guide the creation and management of digital heritage collections, and there is inadequate resourcing to meet the needs of collections and their communities.'

'We aim to achieve better alignment with other major sectors and policy platforms so that Australia's collections in the arts, culture, environment, heritage, information and science fields are seen as active contributors to a national sustainable future.'

View the paper at www.collectionscouncil.com.au.

New copyright head brings alternative skill set

For only the second time in its 40-year history, the Australian Copyright Council has appointed a non-lawyer as chief executive.

The new head, Mary Anne Reid, was formerly policy manager for the organisation now known as Screen Australia. The Council's chair Peter Banki explained, 'Mary Anne brings impressive policy-making and advocacy skills to her new position. Her expertise will enable the Council to build on its established reputation as Australia's peak copyright body.'

She will be supported by senior lawyer Ian McDonald.

NZ graduate library courses pass muster

A review of the curricula of NZ graduate library and information programs has led to the Victoria University of Wellington Te Whare Wānanga o te Upoko o te Ika a Maui master of library and information studies and Te Wānanga o Raukawa bachelor of Maori information management courses being recognised and approved, with provisional recognition for the Open Polytechnic He Wharekura-tini Kaihautu o Aotearoa bachelor of applied science and bachelor of arts information and library courses.

The review process, carried out by experts from NZ, the UK and US, was designed to ensure that the body of knowledge covered by the curricula gave students the specialist knowledge and skills they needed to fulfil future roles.

'Nobody grows old merely by living a number of years. We grow old by deserting our ideals. Years may wrinkle the skin, but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul.'

Poet Samuel Ullman

EXHIBITIONS

Gallipoli: A Turkish View
 Australian War Memorial travelling exhibition, Camden Library, NSW
 From 8 October

Charles Brasch: In the Company of Artists
 Hocken Library
 University of Otago
 Until 10 October

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

White Gloves Tour: Treasures from the John Oxley Library
 Touring Queensland
 Until November

Nick Cave—The Exhibition
 National Library of Australia
 Until 29 November

Becoming Queensland: The First 50 Years
 State Library of Queensland
 Virtual exhibition
 Until December
www.slq.qld.gov.au

Focus on *Mary Poppins* author PL Travers
 Nelson Meers Foundation Heritage Collection, State Library of NSW
 Until 31 December

Vaniman Panorama
 State Library of NSW
 Until 31 January 2010

Far-sited: The Maps That Made Canberra
 National Library
 Until 31 January 2010

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

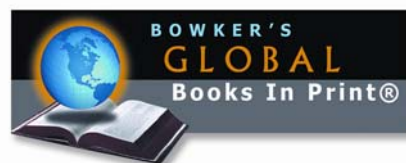
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All subscribers to GBiP receive a free subscription to our readers' advisory service, Fiction Connection. To subscribe to www.globalbooksinprint.com, or arrange a data extract from GBiP, contact Matthew Hunter (03) 8517-8360 or email matthew.hunter@thorpe.com.au.

SITUATIONS VACANT

Library Events Program Officer
 Canberra

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AUSTRALIAN LIBRARY NEWS

WHAT'S ON GUIDE 2009

Month	Dates	Title	Description	Location	More information
September	29-2	Engage Explore Celebrate	Australian School Librarians' Association XXI biennial Conference	Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre	www.asla.org.au
October	All	International School Library Month	Theme for this year is School Libraries: The Big Picture	International	www.iasl-online.org
October	1	IAML AGM	International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres AGM	Fisher Library University of Sydney	www.iamlaust.org
October	1-5	The National Young Writers' Festival	Australia's premier event for emerging writers	Newcastle, NSW	www.youngwritersfestival.org
October	2-3	6th ALIA Top End Symposium	The theme is Exploring Learning Spaces and Learning Environments	Education Lecture Theatre Charles Darwin University NT	www.alia.org.au
October	6	The Story of Martha Rendell	Marking the 100th anniversary of the execution of the last woman to be hanged in WA	State Records Office WA	www.sro.wa.gov.au
October	11-17	Voyaging Together: memory, integrity and sustainability	Australian Society of Archivists Conference	Brisbane	www.archivists.org.au
October	11-14	Change and Challenge	Public Libraries Australia and Queensland Public Libraries' Association joint conference	Jupiter's Casino Townsville, Queensland	rhenshaw@pla.org.au
October	12-14	LIANZA 2009	Library and Information Association of NZ conference	Christchurch Convention Centre	http://lianza.org.nz
October	15-16	People in the Information Profession	CAVAL, Emerald and ALIA Conference	Victoria University Melbourne	www.caval.edu.au/hrconference.html
October	15-16	14th Biennial Copyright Law and Practice Symposium	Hosted by the Australian Copyright Council and the Copyright Society of Australia	Art Gallery of NSW Sydney	www.copyright.org.au
October	15-17	The Practice of Indexing	Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers conference	Sydney	www.anzsi.org
October	15, 18, 24-25	Australia's Silent Film Festival	Annette Kellerman and Snub Pollard will be inducted into the Hall of Fame	State Library of NSW	www.ozsilentfilmfestival.com.au
October	16-17	Plain Language Association conference	Seventh biennial event run by the Plain English Foundation	Sydney	www.plainenglishfoundation.com
October	17-18	Wandering Tour 2009	Queensland Library Technicians Group goes to Toowoomba	Toowoomba, Queensland	andrea.davis@usq.edu.au

AUSTRALIAN LIBRARY NEWS

WHAT'S ON GUIDE 2009 & 2010

Month	Dates	Title	Description	Location	More information
October	21-23	NZCCM National Conference	NZ Conservators of Cultural Material	Auckland, NZ	david.ashman@aucklandcity.govt.nz
October	23	Cultural Collections, Creators and Copyright	Addressing issues facing cultural institutions, creators and copyright owners in the digital environment	State Library of Victoria Melbourne	law-cmcl@unimelb.edu.au
October	24-25	Flight of the Mind: Writing and the Creative Imagination	Conference featuring Australian writers, with keynote speaker Geraldine Brooks delivering the Kenneth Binns lecture	National Library of Australia Canberra	www.nla.gov.au
November	22-24	SWITCH	Public libraries in a changing environment	Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre	www.plmns.w.gov.au
November	23-24	National Digital Forum 2009	Eighth annual conference for cultural organisations	Museum of NZ Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington	http://ndf.natlib.govt.nz/about/2009-conference.htm
November	26-27	NSLA	National and State Libraries Australasia meeting	To be confirmed	www.nsla.org.au
December	10	150th Anniversary of Queensland's Independence	Following State-wide celebrations	State Library of Queensland Brisbane	www.slq.qld.gov.au
February	9-11	Connections, Content, Conversations	VALA's 15th biennial conference	Melbourne Exhibition & Convention Centre	www.vala.org.au
May	17-23	Sydney Writers' Festival	Annual event	Sydney	www.swf.org.au
June	13-16	SLA 2010 Conference and Exhibition	Theme is Entering SLA's Next Century: Let the Good Times Roll	New Orleans USA	www.sla.org
July	15-18	25th Annual ANZTLA Conference	Australia and New Zealand theological library association	St Catherine's College University of WA, Perth	www.anzsla.org
August	10-11	Connection and Convergence	Second international conference on joint use in libraries	Adelaide	www.auslib.com.au
August	10-15	World Library and Information Congress	IFLA general conference and council	Göteborg, Sweden	www.ifla.org
September	2-3	ALIA 2010 Conference	Vote for a name—see page 4	Brisbane	www.alia.org.au
September	27-1	SLAQ/IASL 2010 Conference	The School Library Association of Queensland biennial conference and the 39th International Association of School Librarianship annual conference	Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre	www.slaq.org.au