

Making news...

Selected reprints from newspapers and magazines in recent months

Not too cool for school – library should be a hip place to hang
Sunday Canberra Times, 14 September,
by Renee Cutrupi

Impact of school libraries on student achievement, a study by the Australian Council for Educational Research, has revealed that students consider their school library important, but the facilities are avoided because they are not 'cool' enough. The ACT opposition spokesman for Education, Steve Pratt said that governments of all persuasions should consider the findings of the report when developing new curriculum, education strategies and funding allocations.

Librarians make noise over new doll
Daily Mercury (Mackay), 10 September

A new librarian action figure has caused a stir in library-land. Diane DuBois, library director of Caribou Public Library in Maine, said the figure — which moves her index finger to her lips in a shushing action — was 'so stereotypical I could scream!' The story also appeared in the *Bulletin with Newsweek* on 9 September.

Research still at crossroads
Australian, 10 September, by David Siddle

Although many submissions on research and research training were made to the federal government's Higher Education at the Crossroads review, recommendations on these matters have been deferred. David Siddle, deputy vice-chancellor (research) at the University of Queensland outlines some of the possible outcomes from the review of higher education.

Boys lift models in library
Queensland Times (Ipswich), 10 September,
by Tony Moore

Ipswich library users thought that they had uncovered censorship in the library collection — namely the model on assignment section of *Inside Sport* magazine which is missing from every edition in the library. Library staff assured the *Queensland Times* that it wasn't council policy to remove bikini model shots, but it appears that library patrons appear to have been taking the pages.

Library chief opens new chapter
Heidelberg Leader, 9 September

An article on Craig Anderson, former chief executive of Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service, who is taking up the post of library director at RMIT University.

Leaders to inspire reading
Shepparton News, 8 September

Mooroopna Primary School has launched a new literacy project: 'Read me a book' features recordings of books read by inspirational people in the community.

National Simultaneous Storytime

National Simultaneous Storytime (5 September) received great press coverage again this year. Stories were published both before the event and after. NSS generated a lot of positive publicity for libraries, as well as highlighting the importance of literacy.

National Literacy and Numeracy Week

National Literacy and Numeracy Week (1–5 September) also received a lot of cover during September. Many papers featured articles alerting readers to events in their local libraries and schools, and the winners of the national literacy and numeracy awards were congratulated.

Children's Book Week

Children's Book Week received a great deal of coverage in August. Schools were particularly successful in having the event covered in their local papers, public libraries also entered into the spirit of the event with specially themed storytimes and activities.

Thin on the ground? Problem solved
Sydney Morning Herald, 2 September,
by Adam Turner

When the State Library of Victoria decided to expand its network of computer terminals to meet growing public demand, it had to come up with innovative ways of maintaining the network without funds for additional staff. The library issued a public tender for 'innovative solutions', and have elected to go with Sun Microsystems' thin client solution. Almost 100 SunRay 1 thin client terminals, connected to the library's fibre-optic backbone have been deployed. The terminals are connected to a keyboard, a mouse and CRT monitor. They contain a smart-card reader and basic circuit board with firmware, but lack a processor, hard drive or memory.

One book for city
South East Advertiser, 27 August

The Mayne Inheritance, written by Taringa resident Dr Rosamund Siemon, has been chosen for the One Book One Brisbane cam-

continued next page...

NEW LIBRARIAN'S SYMPOSIUM 1.5
Friday 5th December, 2003 • Carlton Crest Hotel, Brisbane

**ALIA New Librarian's
Symposium 1.5**

5 December 2003
Carlton Crest Hotel, Brisbane

Register your interest and find out more details at
<http://conferences.alia.org.au/newlibrarian2003/>

Contact: Robyn Gattera, ph 07 3403 2592, twg@brisbane.qld.gov.au



... from previous page

\$750. Contact: APESMA Management Education, ph 1300 853 377, short_courses@apesma-ed.com

• **17/11 SA Library Technicians.** *General meeting.* The Left Bank, 165 Pulteney St Adelaide, 6:00pm, all welcome. Contact: Fairlie Sampson, library@tauondi.sa.edu.au

TAS

9–10/10 APESMA: short course. *Project management.* Hobart. Cost: members \$650, non-members \$750. Contact: APESMA Management Education, ph 1300 853 377, short_courses@apesma-ed.com

VIC

7–8/10 APESMA: short course. *Contract management.* Melbourne. Cost: members \$650, non-members \$750. Contact: APESMA Management Education, ph 1300 853 377, short_courses@apesma-ed.com

• **15/10 Vic Specials Libraries.** *Visit to InfoZone, Museum Victoria.* Carlton Gardens (next to the Royal Exhibition Building). Please meet at reception at 5:30pm. *RSVP by 13/10 to:* Tania Barry, liaison officer, ktb@netspace.net.au

• **25/10 Schools Victoria.** *A celebration of best evidence-based practice.* Learn more about best evidence-based practice, determine future directions and develop a framework for ongoing collegial support. Contact: Kris Johnstone, ph 03 9885 4501, kris.johnstone@sacrecoeur.melb.catholic.edu.au

• **25/10 Schools Victoria.** *Committee meeting.* Santa Maria College Library, Northcote, 9:30am. All members are warmly welcome to attend. Contact: Anne Girolami, secretary, ph 03 9851 1525 or anneg@marcellin.vic.edu.au. The meeting will follow the PD activity organised for that day.

• **27/10 Schools Victoria.** *School libraries day dinner.* A joint dinner with SLAV is planned to celebrate School Libraries Day. Contact: Kris Johnstone, ph 03 9885 4501, kris.johnstone@sacrecoeur.melb.catholic.edu.au

11–12/11 APESMA: short course. *Project management.* Melbourne. Cost: members \$650, non-members \$750. Contact: APESMA Management Education, ph 1300 853 377, short_courses@apesma-ed.com

18–19/11 APESMA: short course. *Risk management.* Melbourne. Cost: members \$650, non-members \$750. Contact: APESMA

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Management Education, ph 1300 853 377, short_courses@apesma-ed.com

24–25/11 APESMA: short course. *Finance for non-financial people.* Melbourne. Cost: members \$650, non-members \$750. Contact: APESMA Management Education, ph 1300 853 377, short_courses@apesma-ed.com

15/11 Schools Victoria. *Committee meeting.* Santa Maria College Library, Northcote, 9:30am. All members are warmly welcome to attend. Contact: Anne Girolami, secretary, ph 03 9851 1525 or anneg@marcellin.vic.edu.au.

27/11 APESMA: short course. *Writing winning technical documents.* Melbourne. Cost: members \$350, non-members \$450. Contact: APESMA Management Education, ph 1300 853 377, short_courses@apesma-ed.com

WA

• **14/10 WA Forum.** *General meeting.* Room 2.9, Alexander Library Building, 5:30pm. Contact: Belinda Grayson, ph 08 9383 8977, bgrayson@cambridge.wa.gov.au

14–15/10 APESMA: short course. *Contract management.* Perth. Cost: members \$650, non-members \$750. Contact: APESMA Management Education, ph 1300 853 377, short_courses@apesma-ed.com

28–29/10 APESMA: short course. *Finance for non-financial people.* Perth. Cost: members \$650, non-members \$750. Contact: APESMA Management Education, ph 1300 853 377, short_courses@apesma-ed.com

• **11/11 WA Forum.** *General meeting.* Room 2.9, Alexander Library Building, 5:30pm. Contact: Belinda Grayson, ph 08 9383 8977, bgrayson@cambridge.wa.gov.au

• **9/12 WA Forum.** *General meeting.* Room 2.9, Alexander Library Building, 5:30pm. Contact: Belinda Grayson, ph 08 9383 8977, bgrayson@cambridge.wa.gov.au

National

28–31/10 IFLA Interlending and document supply international conference: *breaking barriers: reaching users in a digital world.* National Library Canberra, Australia. For more information see <http://www.nla.gov.au/ilds/>

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Making news continued...

paign. One Book One Brisbane is a city-wide reading campaign which takes place over five weeks. Brisbane residents are encouraged to read the same book, then join in discussions held at council libraries throughout the city.

Librarians? No, information professionals

Advertiser (Adelaide), 27 August, by Andrea Stylianou

Librarians want to rid themselves of the stuffy stereotype, and as part of the change want to be called knowledge managers and information officers in a bid to attract younger people to the profession. Alison O'Connor and Kate Sinclair say that the work of librarians is far from boring — it is about finding relevant information quickly whatever the setting.

Libraries touch all

Manning River Times (Taree), 26 August

The Friends of the Greater Taree City Library are running a competition to help raise awareness of the local public library service. The creative writing competition calls on library users to enter some form of writing or drawing to explain how important the library is. The entries will be used in developing submissions in support of a new library facility for Taree. The story also appeared in the *Wingham Chronicle* on 13 August under the heading 'Tell us what our library means to you'.

\$48 000 worth of new library books will keep children reading — happily

Champion Post (Parkes), 25 August

A \$48 000 grant from the New South Wales state government has helped the Parkes Shire Library to re-develop its children's and young adults section. Well-known Australian author Mem Fox was invited to re-launch the service.

Language police arrest a child's learning

Sunday Age, 24 August, by Jane Sullivan

Jane Sullivan looks at the disturbing trend to censor school books in America. She reviews the new book from Diane Ravitch: *The Language police*. Diane said that she decided to write the book after she discovered, what she describes as 'an elaborate, well-established protocol of beneficent censorship, quietly endorsed and broadly implemented by textbook publishers, testing agencies, professional associations, states, and the federal government.' The study not only outlines some of the more bizarre and unusual examples of censorship, but also raises questions about how this censorship effects the education system in the United States.

Library named among top five

Central Western Daily (Orange), 21 August

Orange City Library was named one of Australia's five best libraries in Australia by a visiting international consultant. The library has been nominated for the Orange Outstanding Business Awards every year since 1994, and won the award in 1999.

Fees force schools off stage

Daily Telegraph, 21 August, by Larissa Cummings and Gemma Jones

The increase in copyright fees being charged by licensing corporations is making it very hard for many schools to stage popular musical productions. Critics claim that the exorbitant copyright fees are placing the creative development of students at risk. Schools are not given discounts on the fees, a situation that many would like to see changed.

Hot gossip

Daily News (Warwick), 20 August

Trivia for the day: the main library at Indiana University sinks more than 30mm every year because engineers failed to take into account the weight of the collection when the building was being constructed.

Bell rings in better literacy

Preston Leader, 19 August

The Bell Primary School has established the Bell Book Sponsorship program. The program, timed to co-incide with Children's Book Week, encourages the community, families, friends and local businesses to sponsor a book for the school library.

Top marks for our libraries

Caloundra City News, 15 August

Caloundra City Council have undertaken a review of library services. The report of the review offered high praise for library services — with indications that the service outperforms most other services in the state on several key indicators — but also highlighted a critical need to upgrade the Caloundra Library and the mobile library service.

Albury-Wodonga Campus library wins architecture award

Western Advocate (Bathurst) 14 August

The Royal Australian Institute of Architects has awarded its Regional Prize to Woods Bagot (Victoria) for the David Mann Library on the Albury-Wodonga campus of La Trobe University.

Lean times affect the books

Knox Leader, 12 August, by Shannon Norris

The disappointing funding increase of just 1.8 per cent from the state government is putting pressure on Knox libraries. Knox councillor Ben Smith said that the council has been forced to increase its funding level by almost seven per cent just to maintain the current level of service.

Young surfers hooked on the net

Pioneer News (Mackay), 7 August

Parents are being urged to keep an eye on their children's internet usage as recent research suggests that some students are at risk of developing addictions. The research, undertaken by the Central Queensland University, found that thirty-three per cent of 18–24 year olds surveyed showed tendencies of being addicted. ■